

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-2, 5-15, 18-27, and 30-31 were previously pending in the application. Claims 1-2, 5-7, 11-15, 18-21, and 25-27 are canceled. Assuming the entry of this amendment, claims 8-10, 22-24, and 30-31 are now pending in the application. The Applicant hereby requests further examination and reconsideration of the application in view of the foregoing amendments and these remarks.

The office action of 12/14/05 contains a restriction requirement, which requires the Applicant to elect one of: (1) Species A covered by claims 1-2, 5-6, 14-15, and 18-20 and (2) Species B covered by claims 8-10, 22-24, and 30-31. In addition, on pages 2 and 3 of the office action, the Examiner objected to claims 7, 11-13, 21, and 25-27 as being directed to Species B while being dependent upon claims directed to Species A.


The Applicant hereby elects Species B covered by claims 8-10, 22-24, and 30-31, without traverse. Since claims 7, 11-13, 21, and 25-27 are canceled, the Examiner's objections to those claims are now moot.

Independent claims 30 and 31 are equivalent to original claims 12 and 26, respectively, rewritten in independent form. Since, in the office action of 08/29/05, the Examiner stated that claims 12 and 26 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form, the Applicant submits that claims 30 and 31 are allowable. Since claims 8-10 and 22-24 depend variously from claims 30 and 31, it is further submitted that those claims are also allowable.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, the Applicant believes that the now pending claims are in condition for allowance. Therefore, the Applicant believes that the entire application is now in condition for allowance, and early and favorable action is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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